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Abstract (Fig. 3)

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It is intended to further develop a machine knife for trimming books or the like, which has a knife support made of metal and can be connected with a machine, and a blade, which is made of a cutting material and is to be connected with the knife support, in such a way that its manufacture is cost-effective and it is simple to manipulate and assures a high process dependability. In accordance with the invention this is achieved in that, as a part which is replaceable in respect to the knife support 1, 1', 1", 1''', the blade 7, 10, 11, 12 is embodied in such a way that it is inseparably connected as one component with a blade holder 4, 4', 4", 4''', wherein the blade holder 4, 4', 4", 4'''is releasably attached to the knife support 1, 1', 1", 1''' and is of such a size and shape that it can be comfortably manipulated and accurately positioned. In a preferred embodiment the blade 7 is embedded in a lock seam 8 at the free end of the blade holder 4. Embodiments wherein the blade holder 4", 4''' is recessed at the blade tip in respect to the knife support 1", 1''' and is shaped in such a way that the blade 11, 12 covers the blade holder 4", 4''' over its entire height and constitutes a contact face 13 used for support in respect to the cutout 3, satisfy higher stress demands. The blade 7, 10, 11, 12 can also be selected from ceramic materials inter alia.